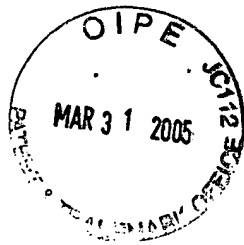


03500.017630.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Anthony H. Nguyen
FUMIHIKO NAKAMURA)
: Group Art Unit: 2854
Application No.: 10/671,617)
:
Filed: September 29, 2003)
:
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS)
AND IMAGE FORMING :
APPARATUS PROVIDED WITH)
THE SAME : March 28, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

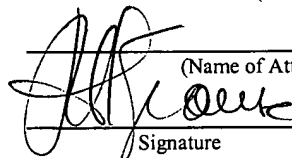
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the continued examination of the above-identified allowed
application, pursuant to the accompanying Request for Continued Examination, please
amend the claims as set forth herein.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450 on March 28, 2005

(Date of Deposit)



John A. Krause
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

March 28, 2005
Date of Signature